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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/980,517	02/28/2002	Kenji Inose	SONYJP-150 5399 EXAMINER	
530	7590 07/07/2006			
LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG,			AGHDAM, FRESHTEH N	
KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK 600 SOUTH AVENUE WEST			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
••••	D, NJ 07090		2611	
			DATE MAILED: 07/07/2006	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)				
	09/980,517	INOSE ET AL.				
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
	Freshteh N. Aghdam	2611				
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply						
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DA - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period w - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	ATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION 16(a). In no event, however, may a reply be tim rill apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from a cause the application to become ABANDONE	I. lely filed the mailing date of this communication. (35 U.S.C. § 133).				
Status						
·- · · - · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>21 April 2006</u> .					
· /	, 					
·	3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is					
closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.						
Disposition of Claims						
4) Claim(s) <u>1-6</u> is/are pending in the application.						
4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.						
5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.						
6)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-6</u> is/are rejected.						
7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.	r election requirement					
8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.						
Application Papers						
9) The specification is objected to by the Examine	r.					
10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.						
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).						
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.						
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119						
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of:						
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.						
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No						
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage						
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).						
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.						
Attachment(s)						
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date						
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 		ate Patent Application (PTO-152)				

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DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's argument, see page 5, filed 4/21/2006, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-6 under Na (US 6,366,731) and Kimoto (US 2002/0049972) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Na and Horisawa (EP 0 966 157).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Na et al (US 6,366,731), and further in view of Horisawa (EP 0 966 157).

As to claims 1 and 6, Na teaches a receiving apparatus that receives a signal via transmission medium, comprising: receiving and demodulating means; control means for controlling the receiving and demodulating; the receiving and demodulating including: interface means for transmitting and receiving from the control means, a command set defined in advance with a given communication protocol; and a process control means for converting control command into recognizable data for the processing

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means. Na teaches a receiving and demodulating means (Col. 4, Lines 36-Col. 6, Line2; Fig. 3, means 101, 102, 106, and 107) comprising a tuner, which is the first element after the receiving antenna as a receiving means of an incoming signal; and a channel decoder, and further audio and video decoders for demodulating the incoming signal. Na teaches a control means (Col. 6, Lines 35-; Fig. 3, means 102 and 103) for controlling the receiving and demodulating and generating a control command at the output of the switching controller 103 responsive to control data received at the control input (Fig. 3, means 102, 103, and 114). Na teaches the receiving and demodulating means including an interface means for transmitting and receiving form the control means. The interface means, an IEEE 1394 serial bus, is represented by a dotted line. between the ATV (Advanced Television) and the HD-VCR (High-Definition-Digital Video Cassette Recorder) see (Fig. 3; Col. 1, Lines 9-29). Na teaches the receiving and demodulating means including command set defined in advance jointly by the interface means and the control means in accordance with a given communication protocol (Col. 1, Lines 9-29) called the Audio/Video Control Command and Transaction Set (AV/C CTS). Na teaches a process control means for converting control command into recognizable data (control) for the processing means. The parsers (Fig. 3, means 104, 105, 108, and 112; Col. 5, Lines 9-22; Col. 6, Lines 37-) process PSI (Program Specific Information), PAT (Program Association Table), PMT (Program Map Table), PIDs (Packet Identification Numbers), and CAT (Conditional Access Table) data from the incoming signal in order to correctly process the input signal (Col. 4, Lines 45-67). Na teaches the process control means containing a control program corresponding to at

least one of the kinds of transmission media (Fig. 3, means 101; Col. 5, Lines 9-22; Col. 6, Lines 37-). Na is silent about a receiver capable of receiving a signal via a plurality of different kinds of transmission medias; and producing control data depending upon a kind of transmission medium over which said signal was received. Horisawa teaches a receiver capable of receiving a signal via a plurality of different kinds of communication mediums; and therefore, producing control data depending upon a kind of transmission medium over which said signal was received (Abstract; Par. 5-6, 8-9, 11, 14, and 16-17). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaching of Horisawa with Na in order to enable a single set top box (STB) to cope with different communication systems instead of multiple STBs to cope with different communication systems (mediums) by receiving and producing control data depending upon a kind of transmission medium over which said signal was received (Par. 5-7).

As to claim 2, Na teaches a receiving apparatus, comprising a control command set which is predefined, independent of the transmission medium. The control command set taught by Na is the AV/C CTS (Col. 1, Lines 1-29).

As to claim 3, Na teaches a receiving apparatus, comprising the control command can be sent from a remote controller to a local device via the IEEE 1394 serial bus (Col. 1, Lines 9-29).

As to claim 4, Na teaches a receiving device comprising a process control means for converting control command into recognizable data for the processing means. The parsers (Fig. 3, means 104, 105, 108, and 112) process PSI, PAT, PMT, PIDs, and CAT

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data from the incoming signal, in order to correctly process the input signal (Col. 4, Lines 45-67).

As to claim 5, Na teaches a receiving device, comprising a bus where the bus is an IEEE 1394 serial bus (Col. 1, Lines 9-29).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Ogasawara (US 6,543,052) see figure 3 and claim 33; and Shah-Nazaroff et al (US 6,671,880) see column 1, line 34-56.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Freshteh N. Aghdam whose telephone number is (571) 272-6037. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 9:00-5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chieh Fan can be reached on (571) 272-3042. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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Freshteh Aghdam June 28, 2006

KEVIN BURD
PRIMARY EXAMINER